

What is claimed is:

1. Composite material for producing a layer of a disposable absorbent hygienic article that comes into physical contact with the body, made of at least two non-woven material layers (4, 6) joined by thermal processing, where the upper layer (4) in physical contact with the body is formed of a mixture of mono-component fibers and bi-component fibers and the percentage of bi-component fibers amounts to 30 - 70 % by weight of the upper layer, and where the denier of the fibers of the upper layer is 3.5 dtex at the most, and where the lower layer (6) comprises at least 40 % by weight bi-component fibers whose higher melting component is made of PET (polyester) and whose lower melting component has a lower melting point than that of the mono-component fibers of the upper layer, and where the denier of the bi-component fibers of the lower layer is between 4 and 10 dtex.
2. Composite material in accordance with claim 1, characterized in that the upper layer in physical contact with the body (4) has a textured pattern created by calendering, where the percentage of the textured surface comprises 5 to 30 % of the total surface.
3. Composite material in accordance with claim 2, wherein the percentage of the textured surface comprises 15 to 25 % of the total surface.
4. Composite material in accordance with one of the preceding claims, wherein the surface weight of the upper layer (4) comes to 10 to 30 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
5. Composite material in accordance with claim 4, wherein the surface weight of the upper layer (4) comes to 15 to 20 g/m<sup>2</sup>.
6. Composite material in accordance with one of the preceding claims, wherein the fibers of the upper layer (4) are hydrophilic or are made supple to be permanently hydrophilic.

7. Composite material in accordance with one of the preceding claims, wherein the lower layer (6) comprises at least 60 % by weight bi-component fibers whose higher melting component is made of PET (polyester).

8. Composite material in accordance with claim 7, wherein the lower layer (6) comprises at least 80 % by weight bi-component fibers whose higher melting component is made of (PET) polyester.

9. Composite material in accordance with claim 8, wherein the lower layer (6) consists 100 % of bi-component fibers whose higher melting component is made of PET (polyester).

10. Composite material in accordance with one of the preceding claims, wherein the bi-component fibers of the lower layer (6) with PET (polyester) as higher melting component is a sheath/core fiber.

11. Composite material in accordance with claim 10, wherein the sheath/core fiber has a core positioned eccentrically to the longitudinal center direction of the fiber.

12. Composite material in accordance with claim 11, wherein the denier of the sheath/core fiber is 5 to 8 dtex.

13. Composite material in accordance with claim 12, wherein the denier of the sheath/core fiber is 6 to 7 dtex.

14. Composite material in accordance with one of the preceding claims, wherein the lower melting component of the bi-component fiber present at least 40 % by weight in the lower layer is made of PE (polyethylene).

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A<sub>CONT</sub>

15. Absorbent hygienic article with a fluid-tight layer (12) not in physical contact with the body during use, a retaining element (14) and a fluid-permeable layer (16) furnished on the side of the retaining element (14) in physical contact with the body, wherein the layer (16) furnished on the fluid-permeable side of the retaining element (14) in physical contact with the body comprises a composite material in accordance with one or more of the preceding claims or is made of such a composite material.

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A<sub>cont</sub>

16. Absorbent hygienic article having a fluid-tight layer (12) not in physical contact with the body during use, a retaining element (14) and a fluid-permeable layer (16) provided on the side of the retaining element in physical contact with the body, where the retaining element (14) comprises one layer (24) of intralinked cellulose fibers with a fluid retention value between 0.6 and 0.9  $\text{g}_{\text{Fl}}/\text{g}_{\text{Fiber}}$ , wherein the layer (24) of intralinked cellulose fibers contains 8 - 15 % by weight of superabsorbent polymer materials, where the fluid-permeable layer (16) provided on the side of the retaining element (14) in physical contact with the body for its part is at least double-layered and the upper of these layers consists of fibers with a maximum denier of 3.5 dtex, while the lower of these layers comprises bi-component fibers with a denier between 4 and 10 dtex whose higher melting component is made of PET.

17. Hygienic article in accordance with claim 16, wherein the retaining element (14) has in addition a layer (26) of non-meshed cellulose fibers with a fluid retention value between 1.0 and 1.4  $\text{g}_{\text{Fl}}/\text{g}_{\text{Fiber}}$  and at least 20 % by weight of superabsorbent polymer materials.

18. Hygienic article in accordance with claim 17, wherein the additional layer (26) of the retaining element is disposed below the layer (24) of intralinked cellulose fibers.

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19. Hygienic article in accordance with claim 18, wherein the additional layer (26) has a layer-like area (28) free of superabsorbent materials on the side not in physical contact with the body in use .

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20. Hygienic article in accordance with one of the claims 16 to 19, wherein the fluid-permeable layer (16) furnished on the side of the retaining element in contact with the body is configured in accordance with one or more of the claims 1 to 14.